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E.O. 12958: DECL: 12/31/2034  
TAGS: [ETTC](#) [IR](#) [PARM](#) [PREL](#) [TU](#) [MASS](#) [SY](#)  
SUBJECT: FOLLOW-UP ON IRANIAN ARMS TRANSFERS TO SYRIA VIA  
AIR

CLASSIFIED BY: Ann K. Ganzer, Acting DAS. Reasons: 1.4 (b), (c),  
and (d).

¶1. (U) This is an urgent action request to Embassy  
Ankara. Please deliver the points in paragraph 4 as soon  
as possible. These points may be left as a non-paper.

¶2. (S/NF) We have recently received  
information from a diplomatic source that Iran  
intends to ship possibly lethal military  
equipment to Syria by air.

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ACTION REQUEST/OBJECTIVES  
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¶3. (S/NF) Post is requested to approach  
appropriate host government officials as soon  
as possible to pursue the following objectives  
and to deliver the talking points/non-paper in  
para 4 below:

-- Inform Turkish officials we have received  
information that in the immediate future  
possibly Saha Airlines, Syrian Arab Airlines  
or Syrian Air Force flights will conduct  
large-scale arms shipments from Iran to Syria  
and probably Hizbullah using Turkish airspace;

-- Ask the Government of Turkey (GOT) to  
follow up and implement its commitment to be  
vigilant in investigating suspect shipments  
from Iran, and to interdict them as  
appropriate.

-- Convey our appreciation for Turkey's  
ongoing support to investigate such activity  
and positive action with regard to similar  
shipments in the past.

-- As a NATO ally, we try to provide Turkey  
with as much information as possible on these  
issues; and

-- Emphasize to Turkish officials that UN  
Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1747,  
paragraph 5, prohibits Iran from supplying,  
selling or transferring from its territory any  
arms or related material. It also requires  
all states to prohibit the procurement of such  
items from Iran by their nationals, or using  
their flag vessels or aircraft, and whether or  
not such transfers originated in the territory  
of Iran.

¶4. (S/REL TURKEY) BEGIN TALKING POINTS.  
THESE POINTS MAY BE LEFT AS A NONPAPER.

-- We have received information indicating that Iran intends to transfer large-scale arms shipments to Syria and probably Hizbullah in the immediate future.

-- The arms are to be shipped by cargo planes via the Turkish airspace.

-- The arms transfers may be conducted by Saha Airlines, Syrian Arab Airlines or the Syrian Air Force.

-- We urge you to investigate this information pursuant UN Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1747, paragraph 5, which prohibits Iran from supplying, selling or transferring from its territory any arms or related material. It also requires all states to prohibit the procurement of such items from Iran by their nationals, or using their flag vessels or aircraft, and whether or not such transfers originated in the territory of Iran.

-- We would appreciate any assistance you can provide in preventing the transfer of arms on Iranian and Syrian cargo flights via Turkish airspace, making the planes land for inspection where warranted.

-- Per our past discussions on this issue, we urge you to continue to require suspicious Syrian aircraft requesting permission to overfly Turkey to land for inspection to ensure they are not engaged in prohibited transfers, and to conduct such inspections if the Syrians agree to land.

-- Unfortunately, we do not have more detailed information on this transfer at this time. We are seeking additional details and will endeavor to share any further information that we may obtain with you. We understand that Israel has engaged with your government on this matter as well and would recommend that you follow up with them on any additional information they may have.

END TALKING POINTS

15. (U) Department appreciates Post's assistance in this matter. ISN/CATR PoC is William Malzahn (MalzahnWB@state.sgov.gov; 202-647-0397).  
CLINTON